

BIOGRAPHIES



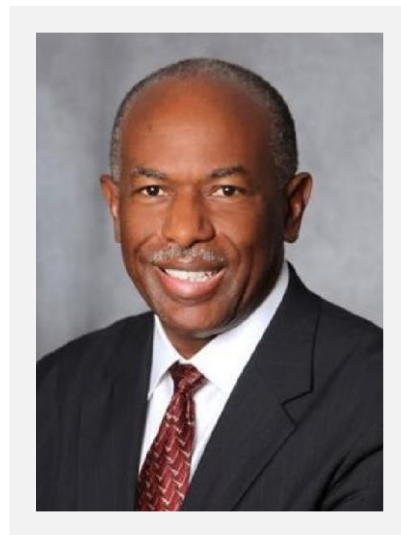
National Academic
Affiliations Council
NAAC

James E. K. Hildreth, PhD, MD

NAAC Chairman

President & Chief Executive Officer
Meharry Medical College

James E.K. Hildreth, Ph.D., M.D. is the 12th president and chief executive officer of Meharry Medical College, the nation's largest private, independent historically black academic health sciences center. A native of Camden, Arkansas, Dr. Hildreth began his undergraduate studies in 1975 at Harvard University and was selected as the first African-American Rhodes Scholar from Arkansas in 1978. He graduated from Harvard magna cum laude in chemistry in 1979. That fall, Dr. Hildreth enrolled at Oxford University in England, graduating with a Ph.D. in immunology in 1982. At Oxford he studied the biology of cytotoxic T cells with Professor Andrew McMichael and became an expert in monoclonal antibody technology and cell adhesion molecules.



He attended Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, taking a one-year leave of absence from medical school for a postdoctoral fellowship in pharmacology from 1983 to 1984. In 1987, he obtained his M.D. from Johns Hopkins and joined the Hopkins faculty as assistant professor.

In 2002, Dr. Hildreth became the first African American in the 125-year history of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine to earn full professorship with tenure in the basic sciences. In July 2005, Dr. Hildreth became director of the NIH-funded Center for AIDS Health Disparities Research at Meharry Medical College.

In October 2008, he was honored for his contributions to medical science by election to the Institute of Medicine, part of the National Academy of Sciences, the most prestigious biomedical and health policy advisory group in the U.S. In August of 2011, Dr. Hildreth became dean of the College of Biological Sciences at University of California, Davis. He was the first African American dean in the university, which was founded in 1905. He was also appointed as a tenured professor in the Department of Cellular and Molecular Biology as well as professor in the Department of Internal Medicine in the UC Davis School of Medicine.

In May of 2015, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from the University of Arkansas. Dr. Hildreth has been inducted into the Arkansas Black Hall of Fame and the Johns Hopkins University Society of Scholars. He currently serves on the Harvard University Board of Overseers. In 2016, he received the Champions of Health Award from the National Medical Fellowship. In May 2017, Dr. Hildreth was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and in August, he received the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award presented by the Boy Scouts of America.

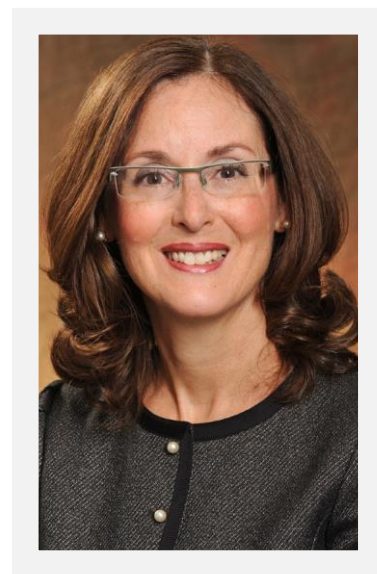
Dr. Hildreth serves on the following boards: Nashville Health Governing Board, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Healthcare Council.

Susan Bakewell-Sachs, PhD, RN, FAAN

Vice President for Nursing Affairs and Dean

Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) School of Nursing

Susan Bakewell-Sachs is Vice President for Nursing Affairs, Professor, and Dean at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) School of Nursing. Dr. Bakewell-Sachs has a clinical background as a pediatric nurse practitioner and is a nationally recognized scholar and clinical expert in the long-term care of medically fragile children, born prematurely. She is also a recognized expert in nursing education, inter-professional education, and academic-practice partnerships, seeking ways to develop and evaluate innovative models of education and practice to prepare health care professionals and improve patient care.



Pennsylvania native, Dr. Bakewell-Sachs received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Pittsburgh, and a master's degree in perinatal/neonatal nursing, a PhD in nursing and health policy, and a PNP post-master's certificate in pediatric acute/chronic care from the University of Pennsylvania. She was a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Executive Nurse Fellow, Cohort 2007, where her leadership development focused on strategic effectiveness and nursing education. Prior to joining OHSU, Dr. Bakewell-Sachs served as Dean and Interim Provost at The College of New Jersey, and also served as the Program Director for the New Jersey Nursing Initiative, an RWJF program aimed at addressing the nurse faculty shortage through new curriculum models, faculty development, and academic-practice partnerships.

Dr. Bakewell-Sachs is an active member and leader in several national nursing organizations, and is currently serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and of the Oregon Action Coalition Steering Committee. Dr. Bakewell-Sachs is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.

Marjorie A. Bowman, MD, MPA

Ex-Officio NAAC Member

Chief Academic Affiliations Officer

Office of Academic Affiliations

Veteran Health Administration



Dr. Bowman completed her pre-medical undergraduate training at Penn State University and earned her medical degree from Jefferson Medical College. Following her residency at Duke University Medical Center, she went on to earn her M.P.A. at the University of Southern California and was awarded an honorary M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Certified in Family Medicine and in Preventive Medicine, Dr. Bowman's first position was as a commissioned officer in the US Public Health Service. Her career has spanned decades as teacher, clinician, researcher and leader.

At Georgetown University, she was Assistant Dean and Division Director for Family Medicine. Next, she was Department Chair of Family and Community Medicine at Wake Forest University. She was recruited to the University of Pennsylvania as Professor and Founding Chair, the Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Director of the University's Center for Public Health Initiatives (including a MPH program), and Co-Director of Penn's multidisciplinary Mixed Methods Research Laboratory. She subsequently served as Dean of the Boonshoff School of Medicine, Wright State University.

She has served as a consultant to several branches of government and many universities and was a member of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). She also has served as President of both the American Board of Family Medicine and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine.

Dr. Bowman is widely published in areas of behavior change, health personnel, women's health, and community health (>200 publications). She currently edits the Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine (read in over 50 countries daily, with 10 million views a year). She is also past editor of the Journal of Women's Health and the Archives of Family Medicine.

John A. Brandecker, MBA, MPH

Ex-Officio NAAC Member

Network Director

VA Sierra Pacific Network, VISN 21

John A. Brandecker was appointed as Network Director, VA Sierra Pacific Network (VISN 21), in October 2018. In this role, he has executive oversight of seven VA Health Care Systems in northern and central California, Nevada, Hawaii, Philippines, and U.S. Territories in the Pacific Basin, with 66 additional sites of care, 22,000 employees and an operating budget in excess of \$5.6 billion. From 2013 to 2018, Mr. Brandecker served as the Director of Hunter Holmes VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. In this role, he was responsible for 3,600 employees, ensuring care for nearly 60,000 Veterans in a 52-county area, and providing significant VA inpatient and outpatient services including Polytrauma care and rehabilitation, spinal cord injury and cardiac transplantation. Prior to joining the VA, Mr. Brandecker held several health care executive leadership positions within private industry, culminating as Associate Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of University Hospitals, UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. He has also served as the Senior Vice President of Jackson Health System in Miami; Associate Hospital Director of University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics; and Vice President of University of Chicago Hospitals and Health System. Mr. Brandecker holds a Master of Public Health degree from Columbia University, a Master of Business Administration from St. John's University, and a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York.



Arthur Evans, Jr., PhD

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President
American Psychological Association

Scientist-practitioner, clinical and community psychologist and health care innovator Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD, is CEO of the American Psychological Association, a post he assumed on March 20, 2017. In this position, he heads the leading scientific and professional organization representing psychology in the United States, with researchers, educators, clinicians, consultants and students as its members.



Before joining APA, Evans spent 12 years as commissioner of Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Service, a \$1.2 billion health care agency that is the behavioral health and intellectual disabilities safety net for 1.5 million Philadelphians. He realigned the agency's treatment philosophy, service delivery models and fiscal policies to improve health outcomes and increase the efficiency of the service system. The transformation of the Philadelphia service system has saved millions of dollars that the city reinvested in other community-based services.

Evans has been recognized nationally and internationally for his work in behavioral health care policy and service delivery innovation. In 2015, he was recognized by the White House as an "Advocate for Action" by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In 2013, he received the American Medical Association's top government service award in healthcare, the Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service. Evans is also regarded as a strong mental health advocate and was recognized by Faces and Voices of Recovery with the Lisa Mojer-Torres Award. In 2017, he was awarded the Visionary Leadership Award by the National Council of Behavioral Health and inducted into the Florida Atlantic University Alumni Hall of Fame at his alma mater. He has also been recognized as a strong advocate for social justice, having received three different Martin Luther King Jr. awards.

Evans holds faculty appointments at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine, Drexel University School of Public Health and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and has held a faculty appointment at the Yale University School of Medicine.

Earlier in his career, Evans was deputy commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services, where he led major strategic initiatives in the state's behavioral health care system. Similar to his work in Philadelphia, he was instrumental in implementing a recovery-oriented policy framework, addressing health care disparities, increasing the use of evidence-based practices and significantly improving community engagement. He also developed a thriving private practice.

Evans is the author or co-author of 40 peer-reviewed research articles and of numerous chapters, reviews and editorials. He is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment* and a fellow and member of the board of trustees of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

Evans holds a doctorate in clinical/community psychology from the University of Maryland and a master's degree in experimental psychology from Florida Atlantic University, where he also completed his undergraduate work.

Deborah German, MD

Vice President for Health Affairs

Founding Dean, University of Central Florida College of Medicine



Dr. German was appointed Founding Dean of the University of Central Florida College of Medicine in December 2006. She also serves as UCF's Vice President for Health Affairs. As such, she oversees both the Medical Education (M.D.) program and the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences.

Under Dr. German's leadership, the College of Medicine:

- Achieved full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education
- Raised funds to provide full four-year scholarships for the entire Charter class
- Built a team of over 500 faculty and staff
- Appointed over 2,000 volunteer and affiliated faculty
- Oversaw construction of 375,000 square feet of medical school space the emerging Medical City at Lake Nona, located 25 minutes from the UCF main campus.

Deborah German earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry at Boston University and gained her M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School.

She was a Resident in Medicine at the University of Rochester in New York. After her residency, she became a Fellow in Rheumatic and Genetic Diseases at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. She was appointed to the faculty at Duke University Medical School and worked in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, studying adenosine metabolism.

She was also Director of the Duke Gout Clinics and Associate Dean of Medical Education while maintaining her own private practice of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology.

In 1988, Dr. German joined Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, as Associate Dean for Students and later Senior Associate Dean of Medical Education. She was also the National Chair for the Association of American Medical Colleges' Group on Student Affairs.

While in Nashville, Dr. German served on the Board of Trustees of the Tennessee Medical Association. She also chaired the Tennessee Board of Directors for the Arthritis Foundation.

After 13 years at Vanderbilt, Dr. German next served as President and Chief Executive Officer at Saint Thomas Hospital in Nashville. She was also Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer for Saint Thomas Health Services. Dr. German led a successful hospital turnaround and initiated service excellence and quality programs at the hospital that received national recognition. Throughout this time she continued to practice medicine.

In 2005, Dr. German spent a year at the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C. as a Petersdorf Scholar in Residence. She studied the leadership of academic health centers framed in the concepts of chaos theory and complex adaptive system science.

Many communities have recognized Dr. German for her contributions. The city of Nashville honored her with the Athena Award and she was inducted into the YWCA Academy for Women of Achievement. She is the recipient of the AAMC Women in Medicine Leadership Development Award. Dr. German was named a Local Legend of Medicine in the National Library of Medicine.

In Florida, Dr. German was awarded both the 2008 Business Executive of the Year and 2008 Businesswoman of the Year by co-sponsors Orlando Business Journal and Orlando Health. In addition, Dr. German was recognized by the Orlando Sentinel's Editorial Board as 2008 Central Floridian of the Year.

Paul B. Greenberg, MD, MPH

NAAC Staff Support

Deputy Chief Academic Affiliations Officer

Office of Academic Affiliations

Veterans Health Administration



Paul B. Greenberg, MD, MPH, is the Deputy Chief Academic Affiliations Officer, VA where he oversees the largest health professions education program in the United States, including approximately 120,000 trainees annually in more than 40 different health professions. Previously, he served as the Chief of Health Professions Education for the Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA), VHA.

A board-certified ophthalmologist and medical retina specialist, Dr. Greenberg has over 20 years of experience in medical education. He works with VA medical centers (VAMC) and their university affiliates to develop and enhance Graduate Medical Education (GME) in accordance with the Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 (VA MISSION Act).

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Chicago, his medical degree from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, and an MPH from the School of Public Health at Brown University. He completed a residency in ophthalmology at the Tulane University School of Medicine and, following a tour of duty in the U.S. Air Force, a fellowship in medical retinal disease at the Tufts University School of Medicine. He has experience in private practice and academic medicine and has held faculty appointments at the University of South Florida, the University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and the Tufts University/New England Eye Center. Dr. Greenberg is a graduate of VA's Health Care Leadership Development Program and the Harvard Macy Institute's Program for Educators in Health Professions.

Dr. Greenberg has served as Chief of Ophthalmology at MacDill Air Force Base, Chief of Ophthalmology at the Providence VAMC, Associate Program Director of the Brown Ophthalmology Residency Program, Veterans Integrated Service Network 1 (New England) Lead Ophthalmology Consultant and a member of the Eye Council for the VA Office of Electronic Health Record Modernization.

Dr. Greenberg is a faculty member at Brown University and has published widely in the areas of medical education, cataract surgery and retinal disease.

David D. Henderson, MD

Associate Professor of Family Medicine
Chair, Department of Family Medicine
Associate Dean, Multicultural and Community Affairs



Dr. Henderson is Chair and Professor in the Department of Family Medicine, and Associate Dean for Multicultural and Community Affairs at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine (UConn SOM). He previously served as Associate Dean for Student Affairs at UConn SoM from 2010 to 2019. He joined the fulltime faculty at the SoM in 2003 after two decades of community-based and international practice, and service. He spent a year working as a physician volunteer in a rural hospital in Sierra Leone, West Africa. He also worked part-time as a physician volunteer at Charter Oak Terrace Community Health Center in Hartford for two years and was instrumental in the development of a community health center in Norwich, Connecticut.

Since joining the faculty, Dr. Henderson has been a physician advisor to the Community Advisory Team of **Sister Talk Hartford**, a community-based research project investigating health promotion strategies in the African American community. Regionally, he has served on two different healthcare reform panels convened by the state legislature. Nationally, he has served on the Board of Directors of the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM). His academic endeavors include serving as co-PI and subsequently PI on two consecutive Title VII funded HRSA grants focused on increasing the number of graduating students choosing to train and practice in underserved communities. His scholarly achievements include two biotechnology patent awards for intravenous catheter design.

Dr. Henderson was awarded a Bishop Fellowship by the STFM Foundation for the 2015/2016 academic year. Dr. Henderson devoted the fellowship experience to an exploration of strategies and policies that effectively promote health equity and multiculturalism in higher education. He currently serves as the PI of the AMA Change MedEd Consortium grant awarded to UConn SOM. He was one of the institutional leaders in the recently completed curricular reform process that eliminated lectures, established team-based learning as the primary pedagogy, incorporated virtual patients in content delivery, and established a public health certificate focused on health equity and social determinants as a graduation requirement.

Maga Jackson-Triche, MD, MSHS

Assistant Vice Chancellor and Health Executive Advisor for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI),
UCSF



Dr. Jackson-Triche's current role (appointed March 29, 2021) is that of Assistant Vice Chancellor and UCSF Health Executive Advisor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI). She is a Health Sciences Clinical Professor of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine. Immediately prior to this new role, she was the Vice Chair for the UCSF Department of Psychiatry and UCSF Health Vice President for Behavioral Health Services. In that position she played a crucial role in the integration of clinical mental health services across UCSF's campuses and led a significant expansion of psychiatric and behavioral services across the UCSF Health system. In addition, she oversaw overall quality, effectiveness, efficiency, and financial performance for clinical affairs within the Department of Psychiatry. She was named a winner of the 2020 UCSF Excellent Physician Award.

Dr. Jackson-Triche has a history of clinical and administrative success within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) network and its affiliated academic institutions. A graduate of the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine and the UCLA School of Public Health, Dr. Jackson-Triche has served in key leadership roles within VHA including VA Greater Los Angeles where she completed a UCLA/VHA residency in Psychiatry, VA Southeast Louisiana where she was the Director of Mental Health Services and a Site Director for the MIRECC Research Program, and VA Northern California Health Care Systems where she was the Associate Chief of Staff for Mental Health. For her role during Hurricane Katrina, she received the Veterans Integrated Service Network Award for Outstanding Leadership. In 2013 she also was asked to serve a term as the Acting Deputy Chief Mental Health Consultant for the VA's Office of Mental Health Services in Washington, DC.

In 2013, Dr. Jackson-Triche was named Chief Mental Health Officer for the VA Sierra Pacific Network. In this position, she oversaw the mental health care services of a network responsible for a population of more than 1 million veterans in Northern California, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the Philippines.

In addition to her extensive clinical and administrative work, Dr. Jackson-Triche has held academic appointments with the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine, Tulane University School of Medicine and School of Public Health, UC Davis School of Medicine and the UCSF School of Medicine.

An experienced researcher with numerous academic studies, articles, books, and book chapters to her credit, she has also served as a reviewer for the Journal of General Internal Medicine, Journal of Clinical Outcomes Management, Medical Care, and Psychiatric Services where she is a member of Editor's Advisory Group for DEI.

Dr. Jackson-Triche is a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and a member of the American College of Psychiatrists. She served on the APA's National Clinical Guidelines Committee Work Group on Psychiatric Evaluation of Adults.

Paul Jung, MD, MPH, FACP

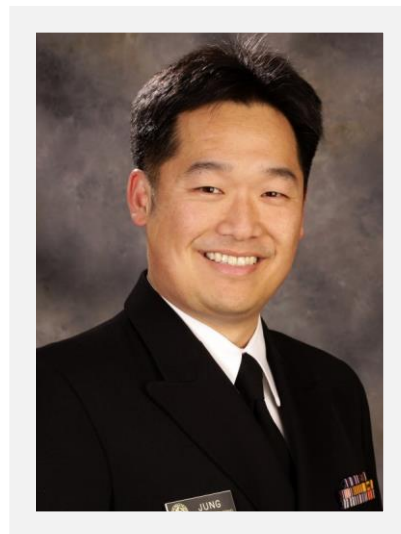
Ex-Officio NAAC Member

Captain, United States Public Health Service (USPHS)

Director, Division of Medicine and Dentistry

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

CAPT Paul Jung is a career officer in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service, currently serving as the Director, Division of Medicine and Dentistry in the Bureau of Health Workforce at the Health Resources and Services Administration. CAPT Jung has held previous assignments at the Indian Health Service, Peace Corps, Office of the Surgeon General, Centers for Disease Control, House Energy & Commerce Committee, National Institutes of Health, and Food and Drug Administration. CAPT Jung chaired the Physicians Professional Advisory Committee of the U.S. Public Health Service for two terms. He graduated from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, completed residencies in internal medicine at Case Western Reserve University and preventive medicine at Emory University, and earned his M.P.H. as a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar at Johns Hopkins University. CAPT Jung is a Fellow of the American College of Preventive Medicine.



Meredith Wallace Kazer, PhD, CNL, APRN, A/GNP-BC, FAAN

Dean & Professor, Fairfield University School of Nursing

Dr. Meredith Wallace Kazer completed her BSN degree Magna Cum Laude at Boston University. Following this, she earned a MSN in medical-surgical nursing with a specialty in geriatrics from Yale University and a PhD in nursing research and theory development at New York University (NYU). During her time at NYU she was awarded a pre-doctoral fellowship at the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing. In this capacity she became the original author and editor of *Try This: Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing* series. She was the managing editor of the *Journal of Applied Nursing Research* and the research brief editor for the journal and is currently Editor-in Chief of the *Building Healthy Academic Communities Journal*. Dr. Kazer is the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters. She published *Prostate Cancer: Nursing Assessment Management and Care* which won an American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award. Preceding this, she was the associate editor of *The Geriatric Nursing Research Digest*, and the second edition of the *Encyclopedia of Nursing Research*. She also published and edited a case studies book for advanced practice, all of which won American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Awards. She is the past recipient of the Springer Publishing Company Award for Applied Nursing Research and the Virginia Henderson Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Research. In 2014, Dr. Kazer was named among the 15 top adult gerontology professors. In 2015, she was named the 10th most influential dean of nursing in the United States. In 2018 she received the Connecticut League for Nursing President's award for furthering the mission and goals of the organization. She is an adult and gerontological primary care nurse practitioner and currently maintains a practice with a focus on chronic illness in older adults.



David Keahey, PA-C, MSPH

Chief Policy and Research Officer

Physician Assistant Education Association (PAEA)

David is the Chief Policy and Research Officer for PAEA and a US Army veteran who served as a decorated DUSTOFF flight medic in West Germany during the Cold War. He is an adjunct associate professor with the University of Utah School of Medicine PA Program and practiced family medicine for 32 years in Salt Lake City Community Health Centers (CHCs) and the Maliheh Free Clinic. While practicing and precepting PA, medical, and NP students in the CHCs, David served six years as associate and medical director.



He graduated from the University of Utah MEDEX Program in 1983 with a degree in Primary Care Medicine where he trained in first-year rotations at the Salt Lake Veterans Administration Hospital and his second-year preceptorship was in rural Idaho CHCs with National Health Service Corps attending physicians. In 1989, David earned a Master of Science in Public Health at Utah which led to participation and leadership roles in a broad variety of community volunteer activities. David was a founding member of the Utah Health Care for the Homeless Task Force and served on Governor Scott Matheson's Task Force for the Appropriate Treatment of the Homeless Mentally Ill. He also served as an advisory board member for Area Health Education Centers, the Utah Medicaid Drug Utilization Review Board, and the State PA Licensing Board. He was a member of the Valley Mental Health Advisory Council, the Utah Medicaid Primary Care Network advisory group, and served on the Utah Legislature's Medical Education Council PA, APRN, and PharmD subcommittee.

David was PAEA liaison to the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) from 2009-2012 and chaired the workgroup that published the STFM/PAEA Joint Position Statement "Educating Primary Care Teams for the Future: Family Medicine and Physician Assistant Inter-professional Education." He was appointed in 2012 by Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry where he served as vice-chair.

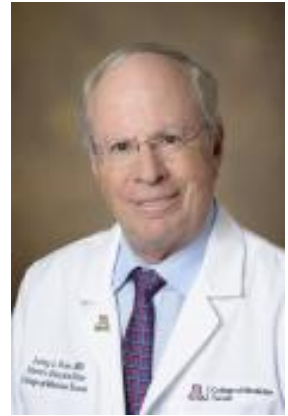
He has published on a number of topics ranging from the integration of evidence-based medicine curriculum into PA education to health policy, inter-professional education, clinical medicine, and outcomes associated with HRSA-supported Primary Care Training Grants. In 2004 he was nationally recognized by the American Academy of PAs with the Inner City Physician Assistant Paragon Award. Prior to joining PAEA, David completed a 2015-2016 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellowship in the office of Senator Chris Murphy (CT).

Irving L. Kron, MD

Professor and Chairman

University of Virginia Department of Surgery

Irving Kron, MD, received his undergraduate degree in 1971 from the University of Pennsylvania and earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Wisconsin in 1975. He continued with a general surgery residency at the Maine Medical Center in Portland before completing his training in thoracic and cardiovascular surgery in 1982 at the University of Virginia. Dr. Kron was then appointed to faculty. In 1993, Dr. Kron was named Chief of the Division of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and became the Program Director of the Thoracic Residency program. Dr. Kron helped increase the national visibility of the Division and the Thoracic Residency program at UVA. He developed a successful NIH-funded research laboratory where many residents and students have gained experience in thoracic surgical research.



Dr. Kron has served on The American Board of Surgery, The American Board of Thoracic Surgery, The Thoracic Residency Review Committee (including serving as Chair), and NIH study sections. In 2002, Dr. Kron was named Chairman of the Department of Surgery at The University of Virginia. He was elected the 91st President of the American Association of Thoracic Surgery from 2010-2011 and received the prestigious Bakken Scientific Achievement Award for his scientific contributions in cardiothoracic surgery during the 51st Annual Society of Thoracic Surgeons in 2015.

Throughout his career, Dr. Kron has published more than 500 manuscripts, including 160 articles in The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, making him the most prolific author published in the STS journal's 50-year history. He also has made nearly 250 presentations on cardiothoracic surgery in the U.S. and internationally. He has published about 30 books and chapters and has been the principal investigator for more than 20 funded research grants.

Dr. Kron's specialty interests include mitral valve and aortic valve surgery, surgery of the aorta, carotid artery surgery, coronary artery surgery, and heart transplantation.

Christopher J. Loyke, DO, FACOFP

Dean and Chief Academic Officer

Lincoln Memorial University – DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine
(LMU-DCOM)



Christopher J. Loyke, D.O., FACOFP is the Dean and Chief Academic officer at Lincoln Memorial University – DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM).

Dr. Loyke was previously the Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs at LMU-DCOM where he was responsible for the clinical training of medical students, preceptor development and management of clinical training sites.

Dr. Loyke received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed his residency at Brentwood Hospital, and is Board Certified in General Practice by the American Osteopathic Board of General Practice. Dr. Loyke currently serves as Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserve Medical Corps. He has deployed to multiple environments both foreign and domestic to provide care to soldiers as well as local populations. Dr. Loyke has served as Chief Medical Officer, Director of Medical Education, and Staff Physician at the University Hospitals Parma Medical Center in Cleveland, Ohio where he has practiced Family Medicine for over 25 years. Dr. Loyke is a member of various professional and scholarly organizations including the American Osteopathic Association, and has presented at regional CME events. His honors and awards include LMU-DCOM's Ray Stowers Award, OUHCOM's outstanding alumnus and outstanding family preceptor awards. Dr. Loyke was also named one of Cleveland's "Best Doctors" as ranked by his peers for five consecutive years.

Kelly R. Ragucci, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS

Vice President, Professional Development, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)

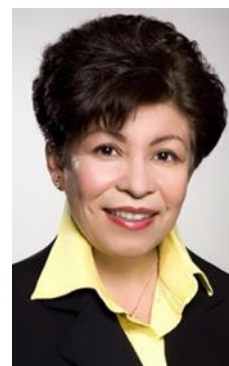


Dr. Kelly Ragucci received her undergraduate pharmacy degree from Ohio Northern University and her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Toledo. Subsequently, she completed a clinical pharmacy residency in Family Medicine at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Kelly is currently the Vice President for Professional Development at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) and was Professor and Chair of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Sciences at MUSC for 20 years prior to that. Her professional interest areas include interprofessional education and practice, educational technology, the scholarship of teaching and learning and women's health topics. Dr. Ragucci was a finalist for the South Carolina Governor's Teacher of the Year Award in 2013, recipient of the ACCP Education Award in 2015, recipient of the MUSC Teaching Excellence Award for Educator-Lecturer in 2012 and recipient of the MUSC Outstanding Clinician Award in 2011. She was also named Preceptor of the Year in 2006 and has also been named Professor of the Year at MUSC 10 times over her career. She has published a total of 59 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. Dr. Ragucci is a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP), a Board-Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist and has held certifications in Diabetes Education, Physical Assessment, Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support. She is an active member of a variety of professional pharmacy organizations, including AACP, the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, and the American Society of Health System Pharmacists.

Elena V. Rios, MD, MSPH, FACP

President & CEO, National Hispanic Health Association

Dr. Rios serves as President & CEO of the National Hispanic Medical Association, (NHMA), representing Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of the organization is to improve the health of Hispanics. Dr. Rios also serves as President of NHMA's National Hispanic Health Foundation affiliated with the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, to direct educational and research activities.



Dr. Rios also serves on the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda, Campaign Against Obesity, New York Academy of Medicine, and Care First Blue Cross Blue Shield Boards of Directors, and the U.S. Office of Personnel Management Hispanic Hiring Task Force, Centene Health Policy Advisory Committee, Cancer Treatment Centers of America Hispanic Advisory Committee, ASU Health Futures Council, and the Society of Medical Administrators. Dr. Rios previously served on the Commission to End Health Disparities, Nurse Family Partnership, California PacificCare-United Healthcare California Investment Committee and the Partnerships for Prevention Boards of Directors. Dr. Rios has lectured and published articles and has received several leadership awards, including the 2009 Top 100 Influential and Innovative Hispanics from Hispanic Business Magazine. Dr. Rios has been honored by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Congressional Black, Hispanic, Asian and Native American Caucuses, American Public Health Association Latino Caucus, Association of Hispanic Health Executives, Minority Health Month, Inc., Hispanic Magazine, Verizon's First Pollin Community Service Award, and Amerimed. In 2006, Dr. Rios was appointed to the Minority Alumni Hall of Fame of Stanford University and in 2007, was appointed as a Fellow to the New York Academy of Medicine.

Prior to her current positions, Dr. Rios served as the Advisor for Regional and Minority Women's Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health from November 1994 to October 1998. In 1993, Dr. Rios served as the National Health Care Reform Task Force Coordinator of Outreach Groups at White House. In 1992, Dr. Rios worked for the State of California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development as a policy researcher. Dr. Rios has also served as President, Chicano/Latino Medical Association of California, founder of the National Network of Latin American Medical Students (now called LMSA), member of the California Department of Health Services Cultural Competency Task Force, Stanford Alumni Association and Women's Policy Inc. Boards of Directors, and the American Medical Association's first Minority Affairs Consortium Steering Committee.

Dr. Rios earned her BA in Human Biology/Public Administration at Stanford University in 1977, MSPH at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Public Health in 1980, her MD at the UCLA School of Medicine in 1987, completed her Internal Medicine residency at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center in San Jose and the White Memorial Medical Center in East Los Angeles in 1990, and her NRSA Primary Care Research Fellowship at UCLA Division of

General Internal Medicine in 1992. Rios was presented with the honorary Doctor of Science by Lehman College in 2010.

Karen M. Sanders, MD

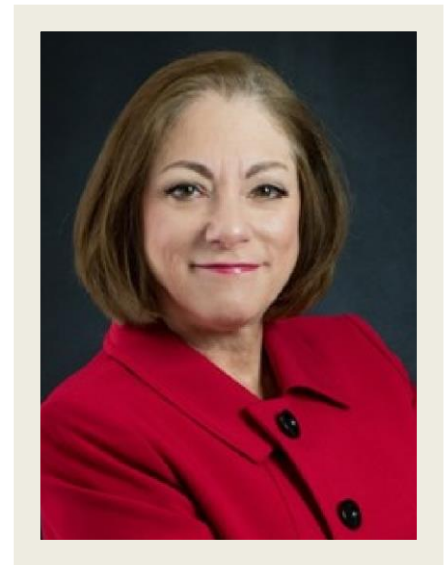
NAAC Staff Support

Senior Advisor

Office of Academic Affiliations

Veterans Health Administration

Karen M. Sanders, MD, OAA's Senior Advisor, provides guidance on policy, regulatory and statutory issues. Prior to being named Senior Advisor in 2021, Dr. Sanders served OAA for 19 years in a variety of roles, the most recent as Acting Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer. Over 42 years in VHA, she has served as a subject matter expert on Mandatory Training and has fulfilled multiple other roles at all levels of the administration.



A graduate of State University of New York and New York Medical College, Dr. Sanders is board certified in Internal Medicine and Rheumatology. She completed postgraduate training in Internal Medicine through Brown University Affiliated Programs in Providence, Rhode Island, and in Rheumatology at the Medical College of Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University. She is also a graduate of the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine Program for Women. Dr. Sanders completed her Certificate of Public Leadership at Brookings Institution and is a graduate of the VA Senior Leader Academy, Executive Fellowship Program.

Dr. Sanders began her VA career as a trainee at the Rhode Island VA Medical Center in Providence, Rhode Island. She went on to serve as Chief, Rheumatology Section and Associate Chief of Staff for Education at Hunter Holmes McGuire VA Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia before joining the VHA Central Office. She is a Professor of Internal Medicine in the Division of Allergy and Immunology, School of Medicine at the Virginia Commonwealth University.

Dr. Sanders served on the VA Talent Development Committee (TDC) as the co-chair of the VA Mandatory Training Subcommittee (MTSC) and co-chaired VHA's Research and Education Capability Management Board. She is currently a member of the Executive Board of the National Board of Medical Examiners and is VA's representative to the Council on Graduate Medical Education. Her publications highlight scholarly interests in macrophage biology, rheumatologic diseases, medical education and professionalism.

Alison J. Whelan, MD

Chief Medical Education Officer, AAMC

As chief medical education officer, Alison J. Whelan, MD, leads AAMC initiatives to transform the current models of education and workforce preparation across the full continuum of medical education. She also directs AAMC efforts that support medical education officers, regional campuses, education researchers, students, and residents.



Prior to joining the association in 2016, Dr. Whelan had been a member of the faculty at Washington University School of Medicine since 1994. In 1997, she was appointed associate dean for medical student education and in 2009 was appointed senior associate dean for education. During her tenure, Dr. Whelan coordinated the creation of the Practice of Medicine curriculum and led the planning for the school's new education building and the creation of the Center for Interprofessional Education.

A member of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) governing board, Whelan has received four Washington University School of Medicine Distinguished Service Teaching Awards, the Emerson Electric Excellence in Teaching Award, and the Samuel R. Goldstein Leadership Award in Medical Student Education.

Dr. Whelan received her bachelor's degree from Carleton College in 1981. She earned her medical degree from Washington University in 1986 and completed her postgraduate work and residency at the former Barnes Hospital, now Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

Larissa A. Emory, PMP, CBP, MS

Designated Federal Officer

Department of Veterans Affairs

Larissa Emory currently serves as a Management and Program Analyst for the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA). In this role, she is the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the National Academic Affiliations Council, a Federally chartered advisory committee that provides recommendations to the VA Secretary on the Department's statutory clinical education mission and its relationships with academic affiliates. In addition to DFO responsibilities, Ms. Emory manages projects for OAA in support of the Executive Leadership Team. She previously served as a Project Manager for MyVA Access and the Office of Mental Health Suicide Prevention, providing education, Lean process improvement and change management for the VA's top initiatives. Prior to Federal civilian service, Ms. Emory was a Biometrics and Forensics Business Portfolio Manager and member of a Contract Management Team for Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc.



Ms. Emory is a graduate from the United States Military Academy – West Point, where she received her commission as an Officer in the United States Army. Her active duty time included assignments to the 18th Military Police Brigade in Mannheim, Germany; 701st Military Police Battalion at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri; and a combat tour to Iraq. Professional certifications include Project Management Professional (PMP), Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Certified Biometrics Professional (CBP), and Lean Black Belt (Healthcare).

Tonya C. Lobbestael

Alternate Designated Federal Officer
Department of Veterans Affairs

Tonya Lobbestael currently serves as a Communications Specialist for the Veterans Health Administration's Office of Academic Affiliations (OAA). Within this role, she is also assigned as the Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO) for the National Academic Affiliations Council, a Federally chartered advisory committee that provides recommendations to the VA Secretary on the Department's statutory clinical education mission and its relationships with academic affiliates. Prior to OAA, Ms. Lobbestael served as Chief of Stakeholder Relations/Public Affairs Officer at Ralph H. Johnson VA Medical Center in Charleston, SC, since November 2004. There, Ms. Lobbestael was responsible for communication programs that informed stakeholders of medical center accomplishments and initiatives including, media relations in three diverse markets, internal communications, and public information dissemination. She oversaw community relations, congressional relations, special events, and Medical Media. During her tenure she increased media coverage of the facility by more than 800%, established effective internal and external communication programs, developed award-winning outreach and branding campaigns, and effectively promoted the VA and its accomplishments to all target audiences. As a service chief, she also served in a senior leadership capacity.



Prior to joining the VA, Ms. Lobbestael worked for Department of Navy, Department of Health and Human Services and Department of the Army. She has also served in various positions in the private sector ranging from advertising copywriter to Public Relations director. Her experience includes newspaper reporting, graphic design, film direction and producing, website and multimedia planning, and an extensive background in public relations.

A native Virginian, Ms. Lobbestael received her Bachelor of Science in Mass Communications specializing in Public Relations from Virginia Commonwealth University.